

CT-1235
8904 Bay Avenue
North Beach, Calvert County
Private

Built around 1923, the building at 8904 Bay Avenue is a rare surviving example of the type of beach cottages that once lined the waterfront. This highly restored two-story, two-bay frame building features a low-pitched hipped roof with boxed eaves and is rectangular in plan. The two-story, four-bay front porch dominates the building. While this dwelling has been heavily modernized, certain features, particularly its porch, are classic elements of early North Beach architecture.

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

North Beach, Calvert County Survey
Survey Numbers CT-1215 through CT-1253
(excepting CT-1217, -1238, -1238, -1240, -1250 and-1251)

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): 1870-1930; 1930-Present

Historic Period Theme(s): 2) Architecture, Landscape and Community Planning
7) Social/Education/Cultural

Resource Type:

Category: building

Historic Environment: urban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): dwelling

Known Design Source: none

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. CT-1235

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common 8904 Bay Avenue

2. Location

street & number 8904 Bay Avenue not for publication

city, town North Beach vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Calvert

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name John and Ruth Elaine Strong

street & number 155 Stinett Road telephone no.:

city, town Huntington state and zip code: Maryland 20639

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Courthouse liber ABE 291

street & number 310 Main Street folio 82

city, town Prince Frederick state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title *Evaluated in Architectural Survey and Historic District Evaluation: North Beach, Maryland*

date June, 1998 federal state count local

pository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Crownsville state Maryland

7. Description

Survey No.

CT-1235

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

8904 Bay Avenue sits on a very narrow lot on the west side of Bay Avenue. It sits back from the sidewalk approximately 10' and overlooks Chesapeake Bay. This is a two-story, two-bay, side-passage, triple-pile plan, frame dwelling. It has a low-pitch hipped roof, which is a very rare roof form in North Beach. The main facade is dominated by the presence full-width engaged porches that span the 1st and 2nd stories, and are supported by a series of plain, square posts. A simple, unturned balustrade connects the posts, while star burst style brackets and pendants embellish the spandrels. Entry into the building is achieved through either of the two doorways located on the left side of the front facade. That on the extreme left provides direct access to stairs leading to the second floor, while the other entrance is enters into the first level. All doors and windows are modern replacements. The only exception being a small, square stained glass window located in the south wall.

This building has undergone extensive renovation, and while a good deal of historic fabric is removed, its form remains intact, and the building remains able to communicate many of its historic qualities.

Significance

Survey No. CT-1235

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below							
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion				
<input type="checkbox"/> 14 499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science				
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture				
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/				
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian				
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation				
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) (recreation)				

Specific dates	Builder/Architect						
Check: Applicable Criteria:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D			
and/or							
Applicable Exception:	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D	<input type="checkbox"/> E	<input type="checkbox"/> F	<input type="checkbox"/> G
Level of Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/> national	<input type="checkbox"/> state	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local				

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This building is significant for its association with the architectural development of the early-20th century summer colony and resort community of North Beach, Maryland. Please refer to the continuation sheets for an historical sketch of the town.

This building is a rare, restored example of the type of beach cottages that once lined the North Beach water front. This particular building was constructed between c. 1923 and at that time was owned by Mrs. M. Schultz. The house appears in the 1922 tax assessment, but is not shown on the 1923 Sanborn map. This discrepancy probably results from the lag time between the survey and the publication of the map. The copy of the c. 1930 post card below shows buildings on Bay Avenue immediately north of 8904.



Continuation Sheet

Survey No. CT-1215 through CT-1253

Section 8: History and Significance

North Beach is a fair to good example of an early 20th century summer resort colony and is a Maryland example of a national trend in community development initiated by the Industrial Revolution. Communities such as North Beach were a result of the growing middle class, mobility and consumerism resulting from the industrial economy that dominated the period. Dozens of beach resorts developed around the Chesapeake Bay in the years between the end of the Civil War and the Great Depression. Some, such as Gibson Island, catered to a rich, white, gentile clientele, while Highland Beach is an example of an African-American summer colony. North Beach was in the middle of the social spectrum. While deed restrictions excluded blacks, Jews were well represented in early North Beach. Excepting this major exclusion, by the standards of the day, North Beach was a heterogeneous middle-class summer community.

North Beach was platted in 1900 (revised in 1908) and incorporated in 1910. The town was developed by a group of principally Washington-based businessmen with ties to railroad, labor and banking. Conceived as a summer residential community and resort, the town was laid out according to a standard grid. In addition to houses, the town featured a variety of tourist and recreation-oriented businesses including theaters, restaurants, dance halls, bingo parlors, amusement arcades, and night clubs--including several gay clubs.

Most surviving historic buildings were constructed in the 1920s and 1930s, and include a good collection of early-20th century vernacular buildings. Represented building types include bungalows, shotguns, American Four Square and gable-front cottages. Most commercial buildings are either destroyed or extremely altered. Many of the town's historic structures were altered in the years immediately following World War II. In the post-war years North Beach completed a transformation begun in the 1930s, from a resort and summer colony to a permanent suburban community.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No CT-1235

Laws of Maryland, various volume 1900-1950, Maryland Law Library, Annapolis, Maryland.
 Sanborn Fire Insurance Company Maps; 1923, 1930 and 1932, Maryland Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.
 Calvert County Tax Assessments, District 3; various years 1919 through 1947.
 Thomas W. Williams, Otto Mears Goes East: The Chesapeake Beach Railway, Calvert County Historical Society, Prince
 Frederick, Maryland, 1975.
 David C. Holley, Chesapeake Steamboats: Vanished Fleet, Tidewater Publishers; Centreville, Maryland, 1994.
 Robert H. Burgess, Chesapeake Circle, Cornell Maritime Press; Cambridge, Maryland, 1965.
 Mary Corddry, City on the Sand: Ocean City and the People Who Built It., Tidewater Publishers; Centreville, Maryland, 1991.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 3,750 sq. ft.

Quadrangle name North Beach Quadrangle scale 1: 24,000

UTM References Do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Verbal boundary description and justification

Calvert County tax map 200, block 2, south half of lot 3

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared by

name/title Sherri Marsh

organization Retrospect Cultural Resource Services date May-98

street & number 9 Southgate Avenue (410) 268-6099

city or town Annapolis state MD

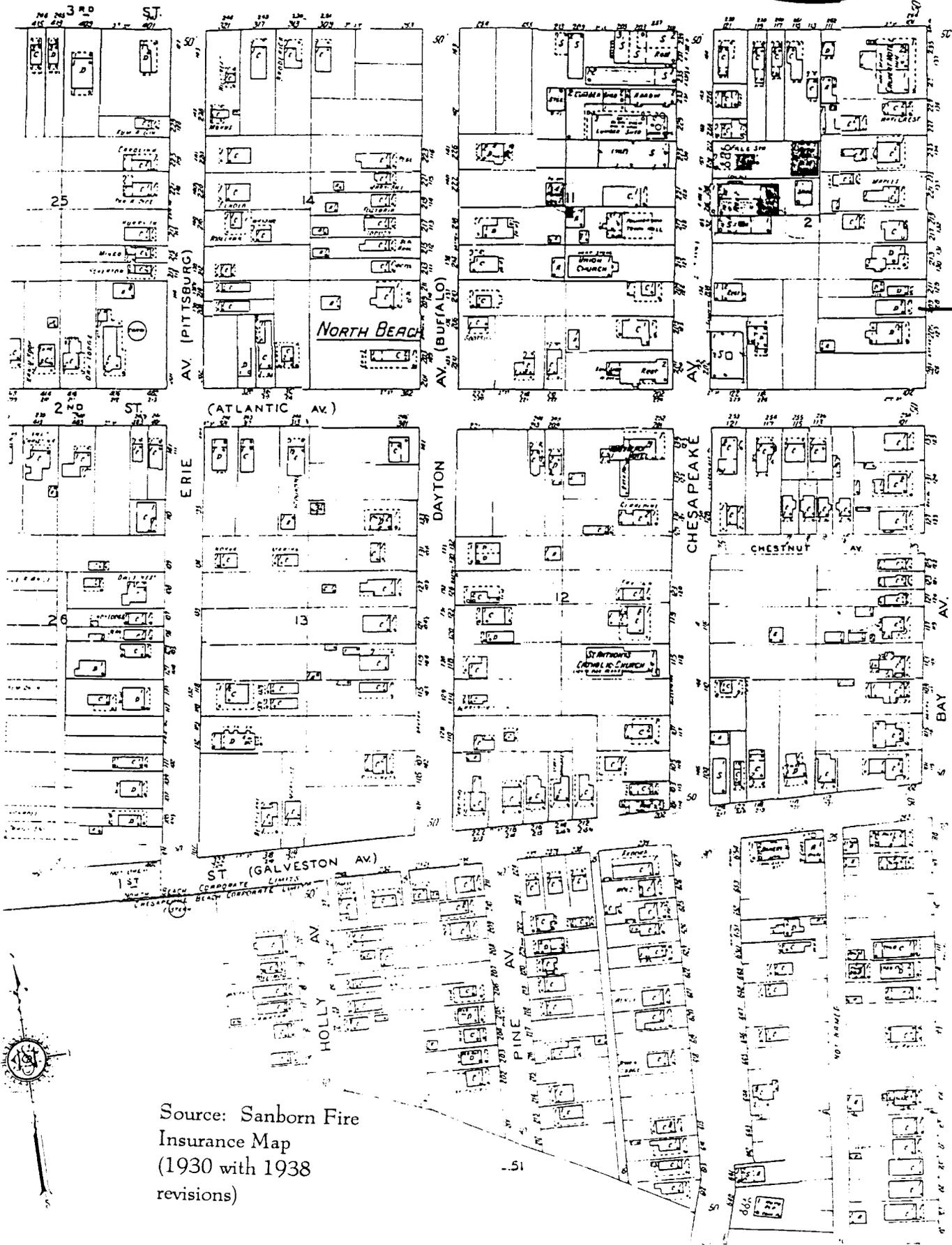
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
 DHCP/DHCD
 100 Community Place
 Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
 410-514-7600

MD... 502 4

JULY 1930
CHESAPEAKE BEACH
MD.



Source: Sanborn Fire Insurance Map (1930 with 1938 revisions)

8904
BAN

Chesapeake Bay



CT- 1235

8904 Bay Avenue, North Beach
Calvert County, Maryland

Big Sherr's MARSH

MARCH 1998

SE perspective

Photo 1 of 1